

2011
4-Rivers Region School Districts
Montana Association of School
Superintendents
Currently Share Resources in the
Following Ways

<p>Area 1 Instruction & Professional Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montana Digital Academy – statewide coordination of distance learning. • RESA 4-U allows for coordination of professional development for region • Coordination of guest assemblies to cut costs. • Districts host combined professional development days to share costs. • Some districts work to match up school calendars for professional development. • K-8 districts are loaned materials and equipment for periodic use, such as science kits. • Rural schools invited to larger districts for professional development opportunities. • Collaboration between schools and universities for reading, math and science interns and “expert” instruction.

<p>Area 2 Curriculum & Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some districts share curriculum information and materials. • Park County district collaborates with ranch owners, businesses and journalists for multi-disciplinary project approach to curriculum. • Some districts belong to consortiums which allow schools

<p>to revise curriculum together, for ex., Montana Educational Consortium.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In some districts, K-8 feeder schools are included in instructional materials purchases to get good prices. • Smaller districts coordinate library resources
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<p>Area 3 Support Services: Transportation & Food Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-district carpooling • Sharing transportation for some extra-curricular activities • Some districts share equipment, such as mowers, aerators, etc.
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<p>Area 4 Facilities & Grounds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Districts coordinated teams for Facility Condition Index training.
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<p>Area 5 Educational Support Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many districts belong to special-education cooperatives in order to share speech and language, psychological, occupational therapy, and physical therapy services. • Cooperative summer school for students needing remediation and special needs students • Three districts have formed a cooperative preschool for special education students needing services. • An “interdisciplinary” team is established in order to have expanded discussion between agencies and the schools. This

group works in the best interest of students and for safety.

- K-8 districts meet quarterly with high school district to facilitate transition to high school.
- Regional training of staff for Response to Intervention (RTI)
- Regional Parent-Teacher organization for special needs children

Area 6

Extra-Curricular

- Districts share track and field timing system
- Districts share extra-curricular fields, facilities and sports equipment

Area 7

Technology

- ICLC (interlibrary loan) program allows sharing of research and reading material
- Districts use OPI's computer recycling program that provides 4-5 yr. old computers, servers, printers, etc.
- K-8 district technology coordinators meet in order to network, share ideas

Area 8

Administration, Personnel, Business & Finance

- Some districts share teachers in order to offer full-time positions, so there is a better chance of retaining staff.
- County superintendent's office coordinates fingerprinting, substitutes, notices for elections for smaller districts in county.
- County superintendent's office trains election judges, and updates

district clerks on elections and county/school finances.

- Cooperative purchasing pool for paper in Gall. Valley
- In the past—collaboration on energy cost-savings
- Gall. Valley school boards have organized and met to discuss and prioritize optimization of resources and effective communication to meet the needs of local schools.
- Larger districts offers bulk printing service to small districts.
- Emergency and crisis planning and training between districts.
- Larger districts invite rural districts to health prevention/wellness programs.
- Montana Association of School Business Officials coordinates surplus equipment sales
- Madison County District Clerks have monthly meetings